

Recreation and Parks: Innovations and Best Practices

Course Length:

6 hours

Course description:

Recreation and Parks: Innovations and Best Practices

This course will expose municipal officials to some of the innovations and creative solutions that some of Georgia's cities have initiated in the development of outdoor and indoor recreation facilities and parks, both active and passive. Participants will also learn how cities are taking advantage of creative ways of generating revenues to fund new and existing facilities and outdoor areas. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the recreation and parks opportunities for their cities and ways to build community support.

Learning Objectives:

Participants will gain an in-depth understanding of:

- How to engage the community in support of initiatives and funding of services and facilities
- The innovations cities are implementing to expand and improve indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities
- What some cities are doing to create new innovative uses of outdoor greenspaces for passive and active parks
- What parks and recreation do for the community and how cities of all sizes can take advantage of these opportunities

Agenda

8:30 - 8:45

Welcome & Overview

- Walt McBride, Carl Vinson Institute of Government

8:45 - 9:30

The Importance of Recreation and Parks to a Healthy Community: How are Cities are Responding, What's Working and What's Not Working

- Jimmy Gisi, Executive Director, Georgia Recreation and Parks Association

- 9:30 - 10:15** **Engaging Citizens in the Support for Facilities and Programming**
-A medium sized city recreation and parks director and Mayor
- 10:15 – 10:30** **BREAK**
- 10:30 – 12:00** **Creative Uses of Greenspaces: Active and Passive Parks**
(discussion of how the concepts came about, how it was planned and organized, how funded, how developed, successes and lessons learned)
- Small sized city parks director and Mayor
- Medium sized city parks director and Mayor
- 12:00 - 1:00** **LUNCH**
- 1:00 – 2:15** **Innovations in Recreation and Recreation Programming**
(discussion of how the concepts came about, how it was planned and organized, how funded, how developed, successes and lessons learned)
- Small sized city parks director and Mayor
- Medium sized city parks director and Mayor
- 2:15 – 2:30** **Break**
- 2:30 - 3:15** **The Future of Parks and Recreation Over the Next 10 Years**
- Panel of previous presenters
- 3:15 - 3:30** **Closure & Course Evaluation**
- Walt McBride